

Claims

- Sub. at 1. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a
2 spindle, comprising:
3 an integral base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration;
4 wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and
5 wherein said peripheral section has an interior surface and includes a plurality of fingers
6 which define one or more longitudinal windows therebetween. said fingers including nut
engaging surfaces on the interior surface of the peripheral section.
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2. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said nut engaging surfaces each comprise two
angled surfaces.
3. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped.
4. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said base section is flat.
5. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said base section is reinforced around said
central aperture.
6. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 made from polymer.

- Sub. at 7. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said peripheral section includes an integrally
formed ring at an end opposite said base section.
8. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a
spindle, comprising:
an integral base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration;
wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and

5 wherein said peripheral section comprises a plurality of fingers which create one or more
 6 longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers including a flared end bent towards the center
 7 of said spindle nut retainer.

1 9. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped.

1 10. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said base section includes a tab bent in line
 2 with said fingers.

1 11. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said fingers having a flared end are T-shaped.

1 12. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 made from steel.

Sub 13. A spindle nut locking system comprising:
 2 a spindle having a first end;
 3 a nut threadedly engaged to said spindle, said nut having flats;
 4 a spindle nut retainer, circumscribing said nut and said spindle, comprising an integral
 5 base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration wherein said
 6 base section defines a central aperture, and wherein said peripheral section includes a
 7 plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween.

1 14. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said spindle has a D-shaped cross-
 2 section adjacent to said first end.

1 15. The spindle nut locking system of claim 14 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped and
 2 said spindle nut retainer circumscribes the D-shaped cross section of said spindle resulting in
 3 rotational interference between said spindle nut retainer and said spindle.

1 16. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said peripheral member has an
 2 interior surface which defines a plurality of nut engaging surfaces.

- 1 17. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said peripheral section comprises a
- 2 plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers
- 3 including a flared end bent towards the center of said spindle nut retainer.

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